

Howland Wood - Curatorial

Courteau, Eugene G., Dr.
[Numismate,

1914-1921

St. Jacques de la Achigan,
Quebec, Canada]

St Jacques, 10 Esq. 1914

My dear Mr Wood,

To tell you the plain truth I haven't ~~it~~ look at coins for a long time, even Wellingtons. I am so busy reading war news!

On the other hand, I feel somewhat afraid to send my coins without having previously good security; I fear they may get astray before they reach their destination.

I have quite enough information about the coins, and know sufficiently ~~to~~ about Wellington to make a short biography of him, but it was never my intention to be prolific on that part of the coins.

Hoping to receive ~~it~~ news from you soon.

I remain,

Yours Truly,

J^r Comteau

Oct. 12, 1914.

Dr. Eugene Corteau

St. Jacques,

Quebec, Can.

My dear Dr:-

Everybody down here seems to be reading the war news and I find the greatest trouble in getting one to buckle down to real work.

I am anxious that you give us an article on the Wellington tokens, or whatever other subject you may select. I don't think you need have any fear about the coins going astray. They can be registered and while they are here they will not go out of the coin room. We have our own photographer photograph them right here.

Trusting that you will find time between reading the war news to give us a good article, I remain,

Very truly yours,

St Jacques, Oct. 20th 1914

My dear Mrs Wood,

I know that to send parcels by registered mail is generally safe, but I would not venture to forward from 40 to 50 varieties of coins that way.

The only sure way & would be by Express, and, of course, the Association will have the pay fees both ways.

On the other hand, may I ask you what will be come of the plates, after ^{their} ~~its~~ use? I should like you to promise me they will be given to ~~me~~ me in return as I intend to use them in the future, and I think I well deserve so.

Yours Truly,

J. Bourstan

St Jacques, Dec. 1st 1914

My dear Mr Wood,

Inclosed please find a part of my MS. on the Wellington tokens, to be corrected. I should like you to be very exact as to punctuations, or stops appearing in the MS. as they exactly represent what is on the coin itself; also, please, do not change anything that might affect the meaning of what I wrote.

Of course, anything not correct concerning the English, you will do right to revise it, or replace the wordings, but always ~~so~~ having in view the meaning I am given to my phrases.

As soon as you will return this, I expect to be able to send you another part of it. So, as time left us from now to New Year ~~will~~ is very short, please return at your earliest convenience.

I should also be glad to have your idea as to the way you intend to place ~~each piece~~ the tokens in the illustration. Do you intend to illustrate them all. Of course, my way would be the same as I have used in my book on N.S. Tokens. I find it more scientific.

Very truly yours,

D. Bainton

Copyright.
St Jacques, 4th Dec. 1914

My dear Mr Wood,

Yours of the fifth inst.
received and contents well noted. Also received part of Ms. corrected.
Thanks!

Your suggestions seem to be correct, and I am disposed to follow them. As to that regarding penny or half penny to be added after each number, I really don't see the use of it; first, there are very few pennies, and secondly it looks more a catalogue than a book. One can promptly notice in the text whether it be one or the other.

Another remark, please. According to you edge should be written on a separate line, it's all right, as it is the third part of a coin, but I don't see why borders should not follow the description of either the obverse or the reverse; it is only a part of either one or the other.

But of course, I don't want to interfere with your custom, and am ready to follow your instructions.

Inclosed please find the first part of my Ms. to be corrected. You need not repeat as to the ~~word~~ sign "No." before each number; I will remember and won't fail to drop it. Will also add to each number the abbreviation Obv. for obverse.

In regard to put Half or Penny ^{after} before each number, I may put it only in case it changes from one to another. As already mentioned, I would find it ~~and~~ cumbersome to put it at every number.

Yours Truly, St Bonnet

St Jacques, 15th Dec. 1914.

My dear Mr. Wood,

Yours of the eleventh inst. received and contents noted, also ~~not~~ corrected. Thanks!

According to your letter, you don't seem to find the introduction good; would it be better, do you think, to put aside what regards Napoleon and Wellington, or anything about the war? and make the introduction as short as possible? I should like to have your opinion on that.

The way you have rewritten the introduction is all right. I am ready to accept it that way. Yet, I want to have your opinion!

As to literature, I have never cared a pin about it, what I want is to describe our Canadian varieties in the most accurate and precise way possible. I have always refrained from being too long in anything regarding data, etc.

You seem to prefer to have no mention made of the war, whatever, in your journal.

Hoping to receive an answer at your ~~at~~ earliest convenience,

Remain,
Yours Truly,

D^r Bourteaux

St Jacques, 19th Dec. 1914

My dear Mr Wood,

I am sending you by Express a box of coins for you to illustrate. No use to tell you to have your eyes on them, and as soon you are done with, please return by Express also.

I am including a diagram for you to follow, and each envelope containing coins is marked with the corresponding number on the diagram. One explains the other, and vice versa.

In case I include two coins in the same envelope means that both are alike, it is for you to make use of the best Obv. or Rev.

As you may note it, I don't include all the varieties; when different coins have the same Obv. or Rev. I don't see the use of illustrate them all. In such instance I rather have only one illustrated exactly as in my "Coins & Tokens of Nova Scotia".

Now, concerning where the Wellington battle tokens were struck ^{may} I insert this? According to Mr Davis, author of the 19th Century Tokens, they ~~were~~ had been ordered to ~~be~~ struck in Hull, England, by J. K. Picard, who owned a large Lead Works at Hull, England.

Truly yours

J. Courteau

St Jacques, March 25th 1915

My dear Mr. Wood.

I am returning
you under separate cover the proofs, which I ~~have~~ ^{have} tho-
roughly examined. Everything O.K. regarding numbers.

While I know very little about the making of plates
allow me to make you a remark: The most salient points
of difference existing between the battle tokens and correspond-
ing to my description are the creases at the neck and the
locks of hair on neck, between ear and ribbon-bow; Well,
I should think that the latter, more especially, are not suf-
ficiently distinct to be of any help to the description.

It is so that Mr. Samuel Chapman made my plates
of the Moa section tokens over a black ground, but you
will admit that they are very clear and distinct;
the least little details show very distinctly.

What about the Mrs., and when do you expect
the book will come out.

Very Truly Yours,

J. Bourne

St Jacques, April 20th 1915

My dear Mr. Wood,

Inclosed please find proofs which I return.

There are the few changes I would make: after "just a century after they were issued", I would simply put a period (.). On the second line of the third paragraph, ~~I would drop the co~~ after "Wellington Battle Tokens," I would drop the comma and put a period at its stead, and after ^{it} a dash — and begining with a capital letter **I** — thus: "The halfpennies are like medalets, ~~and~~ have some similarity with the 1814 Broke tokens of Nova Scotia." As you will notice, I omitt purpose-ly the word "which" after halfpennies, so that the phrase come in incidentally.

Is this change would be correct: "these tokens were ordered to be struck in England, by J. K. Picard, who owned large lead works at Hull". Or, in Hull, if its better English — to avoid the word there as a final.

Much in haste. There is much sickness around here since few weeks. Very busy.

Yours very truly,
St. Courtem

St Jacques, April 26th 1915

My dear Mr. Wood,

page Inclosed please
find proofs and title, which I return.

I have very few things to ~~add~~ or to correct. After 33 edge engraved, I would ^{add} what is written below the page, that is, I mean to say that 33 and the following variants, 39 inclusive, have all engraved edges; it would avoid repetitions -

Concerning the signs of obverse and reverse, from 41 to 47 inclusive, you must have noticed, that the final V's are lacking and replaced by small blocks; of course, these have to be taken off and replaced by the letters V.S - thus: Obv. and Rev.

I notice that you have erased the letter g in Toga - no. 44 - I thought it was the right way to spell toga.

Very truly yours,

Dr. Courtman

P. S. When do you expect the Society annual book will be issued,

Dr. C.

St Jacques, 23rd Sept. 1915

Dear Mr. Wood,

I have to thank you very much for the sending of your Society annual book, which you had the kindness to forward complimentary.

Regarding the Express fee, I had to pay 85¢, but you might as well let it drop, and don't mention it.

In answer to your question "Why not become a member of our Society?", let me tell you that I would be most pleased to join your Association, but my means are too restricted. My expenses run pretty high; have a boy 18 years old that I am keeping to College who cost me lot of money annually, also two daughters at Convent. I ~~all~~ ^{have} already subscribed to several periodicals & medical journals; so, you see it's hard for me to join both ends. Besides money is very scarce here and very hard to get.

~~As I have~~ ^{been} ~~my~~ intention for a long time to become one of your members and I couldn't get at it. I expect I will be able sometime to come, and then, I may join as an associate life member.

Very Truly Yours,

R. Courteau

St Jacques, 26th Oct. 1915

Dear Mr. Wood,

Lately I have been able to go through the A. N. S. year book; I found it very interesting, and must congratulate you on your both articles, more especially that on the West Indies Coinage.

The latter should prove most useful to collectors interested in that series of coins, and will be a good stimulus to those not as yet acquainted with them.

I have had for years a counterstamped coin in my collection, and it takes me a fancy to send you a rubbing of it. Mind you, I do not mean it has anything to do with the L. S. coins of the West Indies, but you being an expert on that subject, I should like to have your opinion on my token.

It is struck over an Irish $\frac{1}{2}$ D of George II, dated 1758; that is as far as I can ascertain — the coin being poor and much worn off.

Now, Mr. Wood, there is one thing I should like to talk to you about; No doubt you remember having promised me the plates after you had been through with them for the journal. May it be possible to secure them now?

I should be much obliged to you for the sending of them.

Very truly yours,

D. Courteau

Included: rubbing —



Oct. 19, 1876.

Mr. Eugene G. Courteau

St Jacques,

Quebec,

Canada.

Dear Mr. Courteau:-

Your letter at hand and I have instructed
T. R. Marvin & Son, of Boston, the printers of the Journal, to
send you prepaid, the plates of the Wellington article.

The counterstamp which you have, although
I have never seen one with the initials T. R., is of a very
common class, that is, with initials in a dentilated frame.
They are found quite frequently on old English half-pennies,
and sometimes on U. S. cents and occasionally on foreign copper
coins. Just where they belong I do not know. A great many of
them of this character belong to Mexico where they were used on
the rindles. The idea of most people is that they have no historical
or scientific significance being more or less private counterstamps.

I beg to thank you for your kind words of re-
pression in regards the last Journal.

I remain,

Very truly yours,

St Jacques, 2nd March 1917

Dear Mr. Wood,

In one of my letters dated 20th Oct. 1914, I ask you if I can get the plate after you will be done with them. You answered me, 21 Oct. "There is no reason why you should not have the plate and you can count on having them ----"

In another letter of mine dated 26th Oct. 1915, I say: No doubt you remember having promised me the plates after you had been through with them. May it be possible to secure them?

Oct. 28, 1915, You answered "Your letter at hand and I have instructed J. R. Marvin & Son, of Boston, to send you prepaid the plates of the Wellington article."

Well, Mr. Wood, I have as yet received nothing, and should be most pleased and obliged to you for the sending of those plates.

How are you getting along with the Society? Fine, no doubt. ~~How~~ you are enjoying a good health. Here, as usual, everything is very quiet, except lots of war gossip.

Yours truly,

S. Bourneau

St-Jacques, 24th Febr. 1921

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
New York.

Dear Mr. Wood,

Last summer I wrote you
a word about having a list of Canadian tokens
published in your Journal. I received a word
from Mr. Wapman that you were absent, abroad.

I have an article quite ready on a very interest-
ing Canadian series. If you judge it useful
to have it appeared in the Society's Journal,
please let me know.

Yours truly,

R. Courteau

February 28th, 1921.

Dr. Eugene Courteau,
St. Jacques, P. Q.,
Canada.

My dear Dr. Courteau:-

I am very glad to hear from you again, and I think our Publication Committee would be very glad to publish anything you might have. This, of course, can only be told positively after examining the manuscript.

We no longer publish the Journal but we are publishing a series of monographs that I think is better adapted for most coin articles. I am herewith enclosing one. If you care to send your manuscript down I will then let you know.

Very truly yours,

Curator.

St-Jacques, 11th March 1921

Dear Mr. Wood,

Yours of the 8th instant received yesterday and contents noted, but found no rubbing.

After having read your letter, I looked on the floor in case the rubbing had fallen down, but saw nothing. You must have forgotten to enclose it.

Now, about having something published by your Committee, if you were to decide in the affirmative what would be the condition?

I received your monograph all right. Many thanks! I was to write you soon about it.

I find the size of that monograph too small, at least for my article. That on the Connecticut taken by Mr. Miller, of which I have a copy, is all right.

Of course, my Frs. would have to be revised, or corrected, by an English speaking person. There is a fair account of those famous "ceintures fléchées" in it.

Hoping to hear from you at your convenience,
I remain,

Yours truly,

J^r Courteau

St-Jacques, 15th March 1921

Dear Mr. Wood,

With regard to the rubbing sent me, I can hardly tell what it is. I care very little about any of these new checks or tokens; my speciality being old, regular Canadian tokens.

The one side (obv.) represents, to my thinking, Washington, though listeners very poor — or Clinton! But I incline for Washington, and the stars make that side American.

The other side (rev.) is surely Canadian, but what that "No good" means, I am at a loss. It's ~~a~~ quite a whimsical piece. Is it satirical? I do not know, but don't think so. Then what would be the motive of the striking of this piece. It's pretty hard to tell.

Truly yours,

J. Courteau

March 16th, 1921

Dr. Eugene Courteau
St. Jacques, P.Q.
Canada

Dear Dr. Courteau:

The rubbing was omitted when my letter was mailed to you but I sent it in a following letter which I trust you have received by this time. In case you have not, I am enclosing another.

I thought I made it clear that our Society has no funds at all for publications except in the small size, of which I sent you a copy. The large Journal size is temporarily discontinued. In other words, until some person comes forward to supply the money! We have funds to publish this small size. We find that we can adapt nearly any mathematical article to this brochure form; and our policy to authors is similar to that of the Journal - authors get twenty-five copies gratis, and the privilege of sending in a list of twenty-five names to which we will mail copies.

Very truly yours,

Curator

H. W. E.
Enc.

St-Jacques, 23rd March 1921

Dear Mr. Wood,

Your of the 16th instant
received and contents noted.

Suppose I were to decide to have my article
published by your Society shall I have at first to
send my MS. to have it approved by the publication
committee?

I really do not care to do so. My article is on
Brioton 521 tokens, in other words "The Habitants
Tokens of Lower Canada" — pennies only.

An early answer from you, in one way or the
other, would greatly oblige,

Yours truly,

D^r Courteau

P.S. No doubt you must have received by this time
my meager opinion on the token of which you
sent me a rubbing,

D^r C.

March 25th, 1921

Dr. Eugene Courteau
St. Jacques, P.Q.
Canada

Dear Dr. Courteau:

Many thanks for your two letters. I think that token I sent you was made for a slot machine. My interest was excited on account of the portrait and the inscription 'No good'.

I will take up the matter of your article with the Publication Committee when next it meets. If you care to do so, you might let me know about how many words it would be and how many coins you would wish to have illustrated.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E

St-Jacques, 16th May 1921
P. Q. Can.

Dear Mr. Wood,

Pardon the great delay in answering to your last letter. Have been very busy, one way or another, ever since that time.

May I ask you if you referred to the Publication Committee regarding the article on Canadian tokens I desire to have published by your Society?

There will be pretty near 5,000 words in the article and few illustrations needed.

I wish your Society could have it published the same form as the Miller Book on the Connecticut tokens. The book, to my thinking, should prove to be very interesting to collectors in general. My MS. is ready now, and should you decide to have it published, everything is O.K. and we will arrange to have it printed as soon as possible. No correction whatever.

Hoping to hear from you at your ~~earliest~~ earliest convenience.

I remain,

Yours truly,

W. Courteau
Eugene

May 19th, 1921

Dr. Eugene Courteau
St. Jacques
P.C. Canada

Dear Dr. Courteau:

Your letter of May 16th just at hand, and I thought I had made it clear that the only way we can publish now is in the small size. It would be absolutely impossible to publish anything in the size in which the Miller book appeared. Also now all manuscripts have to be submitted to the Publication Committee; in fact, we had always to see beforehand just what we were to print.

Trusting to receive your manuscript, I beg to remain

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E